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18 June 1973

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. [REDACTED]  
Office of Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT : Response to Queries of Mr. Richard  
Perle Concerning Soviet Wheat  
Purchases in 1972

REFERENCE : Meeting with Mr. Perle on 12 June 1973

As per your request, the following has been prepared in response to Mr. Perle's queries:

1. Background materials on timing of Soviet decision to initiate special measures (including release of grain stocks) for expanding meat production (Attachment A).

2. Details of Soviet grain purchases (see Attachment B).

3. Query: Did anyone in the intelligence community compute actual turn-around times for Soviet shipping engaged in grain transport in FY 1973?

Answer: We are not aware of computations of actual turn-arounds.

4. Query: If Soviet ships in transit to North American ports from Soviet ports visited Cuban ports en route, were they permitted to load U.S. grain?

Answer: Yes, except for grain bought with CCC Credits. (CCC Credits were used for about 40 percent of Soviet purchases of U.S. grain.).

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[REDACTED]  
Deputy Chief  
USSR/Eastern Europe Division

Attachment:  
as stated

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